

CURING HAY CROP IN COCK IS BEST

Method Now Generally Practiced
Where Best Quality of
Legume Is Desired.

EXTRA LABOR IS REQUIRED

Found Necessary to Get Rid of Water
in Plant Evenly—Correct Way to
Build Cock When Working
With Green Hay.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

One of the best methods of curing hay is to cure in the cock. This method is not generally practiced except in regions where unfavorable weather is the rule rather than the exception, or when the best quality of legume hay is desired. Throughout the middle West, where hay loaders are used, hay is not cocked because of the extra labor required and the inability to handle cocked hay with the hay loader.

It has been shown that it is necessary to get rid of the water in the plant evenly. On a sunny day hay must be raked after it has been in the cock a certain length of time, or the leaves will become dried out and lose color. When it is raked into the cock a smaller proportion of the sun's rays is exposed to the action of the sun's rays. After remaining in the cock, where further curing is done, the time is reached when it becomes necessary to remove the hay in order to retain a good color and aroma.

Cure Hay in Cocks.

When this stage is reached the next thing to do is to put the hay into the cock, where a still smaller proportion of the hay will be exposed to the sun. The curing process is not stopped when hay is cocked, but goes on less rapidly than when in the windrow and much more slowly than when in the cock. The hay in the cock continues to lose its moisture slowly until it is cured out sufficiently to be baled or put into the stack or barn. The time required for curing will depend upon the moisture content when cocked, the amount of hay put into the cock, and also upon weather conditions.

Under ordinary conditions hay will cure in the cock in from three days to a week. Hay cocked too "green" will cause heating. The larger the cock the more danger there is of heating when unsecured hay is cocked. Hay is put into cocks containing from 75 to 100 pounds of cured hay. About 100 pounds is the size most commonly used in many sections.

Cloudy and rainy weather not only retards curing but may cause heating if the rain enters the cock. When



Curing Hay in the Cock Under Cape—When Weather Conditions Make It Necessary to Cure Hay in the Cock It Is Advisable to Use Hay Caps.

cocked hay shows danger of becoming too hot it will be necessary to open the cock and scatter the hay out until it has lost enough moisture to be re-cocked.

Hay can be put in small cocks greener than in large ones. Some farmers take hay from the windrow and make very small bunches, each containing about three forkfuls of hay, before the hay is in condition to be put into a regular sized cock.

How to Cock Hay.

There are two ways to make a hay cock. One is to roll up the hay in the windrow into a rather loose cock or bunch, or to round up (cock) bunches of hay that have been bunched with a sulky or push rake, after the hay is almost cured. The bulk of the hay in this kind of a cock is not handled, being left rolled up and tangled from the action of the rake. The edges are pulled out with a pitchfork and put on top of the cock. Such cocks are subject to considerable settling, and flatten out and do not shed rain. This practice is suitable for curing in good weather, as a man can handle more than twice as much hay as when cocking the other way. It is a waste of time, however, to cock hay in this manner if it is to be exposed to rain, unless hay caps are used; for the rain will wet and spoil the hay.

The best and correct way to build a cock, when working with fairly green hay, is to take the hay, a forkful at a time, and spread it out flat. Care should be taken to build a good symmetrical cock, in the same manner as a stack is built. The top should come to a sharp peak, and when the last forkful is on the sides, should be raked downwards so that the stem will cause rain to run off and away from the center of the cock. Cocks built in this manner will shed considerably more rain than when most of the hay is rolled up or bunched. When cocked hay covered with caps can be necessary, remain in the field over a week.

D. W. Griffith Talks Of His War Experiences.

David Wark Griffith, the foremost director of moving pictures is back fresh from the seat of war in order to watch his latest achievement, "Hearts of the World." The public have responded so enthusiastically that Mr. Griffith feels that the enormous expenditure of money and the risk of his own life was well worthy of this triumph. In fact the most conservative reviewers have all agreed that Mr. Griffith has in reality outdone all previous achievements in producing "Hearts of the World."

Much has already been printed about the aid given Mr. Griffith by the British and French war officers, and also by David Lloyd George, the Prime Minister of England, in suggesting this romance of the great war. In fact, one scene of the film shows David Lloyd George shaking hands with Mr. Griffith and wishing him God Speed, just as he departed for the battle fields of France.

"I spent several weeks in London before going to France," said Mr. Griffith recently. Through influential friends I had a long conference with Mr. Lloyd George, to whom the object of the drama had already been explained. I wanted to stage a great love romance with the war as a back ground and with the inspiring motive of love of country as the ideal. It was suggested by certain prominent officials of the



British and French Governments that a story staged on the actual battle fields of France could not fail to arouse tremendous enthusiasm throughout the civilized world, and in return for the aid and assistance rendered me I voluntarily made an agreement by which a large share of this achievement will go to aid of the wounded soldiers of the Allies.

"We crossed the channel to France and moved behind the firing line in the very vicinity of the devastated region which has been the scene of so much fighting. I am not permitted to give the exact names of the different villages which figured in so many of our scenes, but for a long time our headquarters were in a little village of Ham. In the party with me were Lillian Gish and Dorothy Gish, their mother, Mrs. Gish, Robert Harron, George Fawcett, George Siegman, Little Ben Alexander and his mother, my camera man, Billy Bitzer, and several assistants. Two British officers were detailed at all times to accompany us whenever we went near any of the battle fields or within the zone of fire. On three occasions our little party was caught unexpectedly in a bombardment, and on one occasion we spent four hours in a cellar. That four hours underground was about the most nerve-racking experience I have ever had," continued Mr. Griffith. "The sound of the shells bursting nearby was terrific and we were glad when the British officers came to tell us that it would be safe to retire behind the lines."

"On another occasion the little town where we were taking some quiet scenes, at least twenty miles from the firing lines became the object of an air raid. A great bomb fell within twenty yards of them where we were taking several scenes in the courtyard. Once more we took refuge in the cyclone cellar."

"In the course of my trip I had many experiences which upset my previous idea of things. One thing I discovered was that a real hero always ducks his head or runs when a sudden shot or an unexpected attack comes. Of the tens of thousands of persons I saw in London during the air raids, and in France at the battle front and in the villages exposed to cannonade, I never saw one person remain motionless when danger came."

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elemental instinct seems to be to duck the head, and then comes the urge for greater action. Persons grimace, clench their hands, clutch at their legs, jump about, if only in a circle, and the majority run. They seem to care not where or why.

"One thing I should like to point out," added Mr. Griffith, "is that my latest production is not in any sense a war play but is a love story of the great war with the conflict serving only as the background. I have aimed in this production to gain efforts by simplicity."

"One thing Mr. Griffith," questioned the interviewer. "Is it true that you were wounded under fire?" Mr. Griffith smiled and pulled up his sleeve to show a recently healed wound near the elbow. That mark was made by a sharpnel bullet, he said. "I spent much time in the dug-out of the British troops under fire. On one occasion we caught a bit of sharpnel and one of the bullets caught me in the arm. It was only a slight wound but I am rather proud of it. The night before it happened I crawled through the barbed wire entanglement with a scout party of British and we penetrated No Man's Land until we were in twenty yards of the German trenches. If the Germans had come out after us that night, I am afraid 'Hearts of the World' might never have been shown. On these trips I always wore a steel helmet and carried a gas mask, but the fact that I was in civilian clothes instead of khaki would have made my position with the Germans very precarious if they had captured me. We came back to New York in November with every member of our party safe and sound, and I am delighted to say that there

was not one fatality connected with the film. "Hearts of the World" will be seen at Roman Opera House in Lancaster, Friday and Saturday, November 22nd and 23rd.

Passions. Passions are likened best to floods and streams, the shallow murmur, but the deep are dumb.—Sir Walter Raleigh.

Machine Works With Fast Gas. Dumb investors have perfected with gas as fuel instead of benzine.

A Timid Nature. It must be a timid nature that would refrain from every good time for fear of consequences.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

All He Knew About His Meal. Having finished his meal the diner called for his check. "Let's see," said the waiter, "what did you have?" "Can't tell for the life of me," was the reply; "but what I ordered was minced chicken."—Boston Transcript.

Tom Thumb. Charles Sherwood Stratton (Tom Thumb) was born at Bridgeport Conn., in 1838. He was exhibited by P. T. Barnum in various parts of the world. He married in 1863 Mercy Lavinia Bump (Lavinia Warren) also a dwarf. When first exhibited Tom Thumb was only about two feet high but he grew to a height of 40 inches. He died at Middleborough, Mass., in 1883.

We Certainly Would. "Would you call eating lobster and cream putting down a disturbance?" queries a correspondent.

Optimistic Thought. A secret, if useful to mankind, should not be a secret.

Daily Thought. He can be the great that cannot reach the small.—Spencer.

Therefore, Be Cheerful! Depression, gloom, dark brooding these are the worn stones in the descent to the inferno of incompetence, helplessness, delayed victory, or even ultimate defeat. This, we know, is true everywhere in our individual life struggles. It is just as true of nations.—William Allen Knight.

One Way of Escape. "A woman marries a man who got up and gave her his seat in a street car." Then the only way for a man to escape is to poke his nose into his newspaper when he hears the rustle of a skirt near his car seat.

Knew What He Was Doing. Visitor—"You were altogether too modest in talking to that gentleman about your golf." Member—"But that gentleman is the chairman of the handicap committee."—Judge.

Duty Before All Things. However dear you hold your patriotism, your honor, or even your life, you should be willing to sacrifice all to duty, if you are called upon to do so.—Silvio Pellico.

Principal Geyser Regions. Geysers occur in most volcanic regions; most notable specimens are in Yellowstone region of Rocky mountains, New Zealand, Tibet, the Azores and in southwestern Iceland.

Daily Thought. No really great man ever thought himself so.—Haeft.

LIVE STOCK

FEWER HOGS DIE OF DISEASE

Annual Death Rate for Year Ending March, 1918, Reaches Lowest Mark in 35 Years.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The death rate of swine from all diseases for the year ending March, 1918, was 42.1 per 1,000, and is the lowest in 35 years, according to records kept during that period. This unprecedentedly low rate of mortality presents a great contrast with those of earlier periods, particularly with the losses of 133.8 per 1,000 in 1887, 144 per 1,000 in 1897, and 118.9 per 1,000 in 1914, years marked by severe outbreaks of hog cholera. This, however, a remarkable reduction from the normal low rate of losses which has remained slightly above 50 per 1,000 when the disease was least prevalent.

The approximate number of hogs on hand January 1, 1918, was 71,374,000. The loss of 42.1 per 1,000 for the year ending March, 1918, therefore represented approximately 3,000,000 of these animals, equivalent to the consumption of pork and pork products by the entire population of the United States for 1917 for 25 days.

These recent losses should be compared with that of 7,000,000 hogs in 1914, which curtailed production to the extent of the national consumption for that year for 37 days.

The marked reduction in the losses of swine in 1918 over preceding periods, in view of the fact that 90 per cent of these losses are due to hog cholera, indicates clearly the benefit from the combined efforts of state and federal agencies in protecting the farmers against the ravages of this exceedingly fatal disease.

GIVE YOUNG PIGS ATTENTION

Care Given at Farrowing Time Has Important Bearing on Food Supply of Nation.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The farrowing house or pen should be comfortably warm, well ventilated, and well lighted. Above all else, it should be well bedded. Do not allow any circulation of air under the floor. Too many hog growers make the mistake of bedding too lightly. Heavy bedding naturally makes the sow comfortable and warm—conditions necessary if she is to be quiet. Use wheat or rye straw. Wild hay is good, as is millet. Do not use oat straw unless there is absolutely nothing else at hand.

Do not confine the sow in her farrowing pen more than 48 hours before farrowing time if it is possible to avoid doing so. Reduce the heavy feed to some extent, probably about half, for that length of time. Under no circumstances should the sow have any feed whatever for 24 hours after farrowing. She must, however, have plenty of water at frequent intervals. This water must not be icy cold—that drawn directly from the well is about the right temperature. Commence after 24 hours feeding lightly, increasing the feed gradually for probably a week or ten days, when she may be gotten onto full feed, conditioned on the size of the litter and the milking qualities of the sow.

A good herdman, for the first week at least after farrowing, will look the pigs over carefully before each feeding. If any indications of scours appear, the sow's feed should be reduced immediately or possibly cut out entirely.



Farrowing Pen With Fenders Will Save Many Little Pigs From Being Crushed.

ly. A heavy feed of rich slop given when scours begin to show up possibly may kill the entire litter. A little extra care for these few days is absolutely necessary.

When the pigs are from four or five to ten days old, be on the lookout for thumps. The best-looking fat little pig is the one to go first every time. An almost certain indication is a little roll of fat around the neck. While there is no known cure for thumps, the trouble is quite easily prevented. Plenty of exercise for the pigs is the answer. In cold, stormy weather out-of-door exercise is impossible, but if a central farrowing house with an alleyway, is used, get the little fat fellows into the alley and put in about ten or fifteen minutes three or four times a day chasing them with a buggy whip, until they are pretty well tired out. If this is impossible, try one or two of the little pigs at a time in a large barrel or hoghead, placed by the farrowing pen. The pigs will hear the old sow making a fuss and in running around the barrel hunting for a corner to climb out, generally will take the exercise necessary to ward off thumps. A considerable part of the battle is won if the litter gets past the first ten days or so with a good start.

Best of Dairy Feed.

White clover is highly esteemed and makes the best of dairy feed.